

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

The freedom enjoyed by these stations is not laissez faire; it comes with great responsibility. So if Sinclair chooses to force this on their stations, then they should, in turn, be forced to air a pro-Kerry program such as "Going Upriver."

What does the bottom line have to do with democracy? They follow the money at their own peril and that of a truly informed populace, the cornerstone of freedom.

Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.